

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)  
COMPLIANCE RECORD FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS (CX)  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management**

**PART I. – PROPOSED ACTION**

**BLM Office:** Tucson Field Office  
**2015-0023-CX**

**NEPA No.:** DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-

**Case File No.:** AZA-17733

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Three Points CenturyLink renewal

**Applicant:** Quest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

**Location of Proposed Action:** Township 16 S. Range 10 E. Section 4, Lots 12, 18

**Description of Proposed Action:** A renewal for an existing ROW that was originally issued to Quest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC for 30 years on 9/17/1982 and expired on 9/16/2012. The line is an underground telephone line consisting of two buried copper cables. The ROW is 10 feet wide and is approximately 2,300 feet long. No additional facilities, structures or construction are proposed, only a renewal of the ROW grant. The BLM and the proponent are proposing to renew the ROW for a term of 30 years.

**Part II. – PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW**

**This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan(s):** The Phoenix Resource Management Plan (Phoenix RMP)

**Decisions and page nos.:** Page 14. "Land use authorizations (rights-of-way, leases, permits, easements) would continue to be issued on a case by case basis."

**Date plan approved/amended:** Septmeber 29<sup>th</sup>, 1989

This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with these plans (*43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2*).

### PART III. – NEPA COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION REVIEW

**A. The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 [Appendix 4 E.9] "Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.";**

**And**

**B. Extraordinary Circumstances Review:** In accordance with **43 CFR 46.215**, any action that is normally categorically excluded must be subjected to sufficient environmental review to determine if it meets any of the 12 Extraordinary Circumstances described. If any circumstance applies to the action or project, and existing NEPA documentation does not adequately address it, then further NEPA analysis is required.

IMPORTANT: Appropriate staff should review the circumstances listed in Part IV, comment and initial for concurrence. Rationale supporting the concurrence should be included in the appropriate block.

### Part IV. – EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION

PREPARERS:

DATE:

Kyle Prinster	9-3-15
Linda Dunlavey	9-3-15
Amy Sobiech	9-3-15
Darrell Tersey	9-3-15

/s/ Amy Markstein  
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

9-3-15  
DATE

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215(a)-(l)) apply. The project would:

(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>  <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have significant impacts on public health or safety. All facilities are existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
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(b) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>  <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have a significant impact on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historical or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. All facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  DT  </u></div>
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(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102 (2) (E)].

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>  <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. All facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
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(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>  <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. All facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
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(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effect because all facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects because all facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
(g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have a significant impact on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau because all facilities are already existing. The proposed action must be in accordance with the attached stipulations 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3. This proposed action has been cleared by the Tucson Field Office Archaeologist.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  AS  </u></div>
(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not have a significant impact on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for any species because all facilities are already existing. The proposed action has been cleared by the Tucson Field Office Natural Resource Specialist.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  DT  </u></div>

(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> No laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment would be violated.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The effect from the proposed project, if any, would be equal to all populations.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  KP  </u></div>
(k) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites because the facilities are already existing.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  AS  </u></div>
(l) Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		
Yes	No <b>x</b>	<b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species because all facilities are already existing and underground. The proposed action must be in accordance with the attached stipulations 5.1 and 5.2.  <div style="text-align: right;">Preparer's Initials <u>  DT  </u></div>

**PART V. –COMPLIANCE REVIEW CONCLUSION**

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record, and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

**MITIGATION MEASURES/OTHER REMARKS:** See attached stipulations.

/s/ Karen Simms  
Acting Field Manager 9-8-15

APPROVING OFFICIAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: The signed conclusion on this compliance record is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. A separate decision to implement the action should be prepared in accordance with program specific guidance.